

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/631,992

Applicant(s)

ELLIOTT ET AL.

Examiner

Lars A. Olson

Art Unit

3617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment received from the applicant on July 17, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8, 10-36, 38-42, 44-46 and 48.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Reasons for Allowance

1. An amendment was received from the applicant on July 17, 2006.
2. Claims 9, 37, 43 and 47 have been canceled.
3. Claims 1-8, 10-36, 38-42, 44-46 and 48 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. The storage bin as claimed is not shown or suggested in the prior art because of the use of a storage bin that is comprised of a container having one or more apertures, and a label holder that is configured to rotatably and detachably couple with said container, where said label holder has one or more protrusions that are configured to engage with said one or more apertures, and where said label holder is configured to hold a label while rotating.
5. The prior art as disclosed by Mallan (GB 2242180A) shows the use of a storage bin that is comprised of a container with a label securing structure having one or more apertures, and a label holder that is configured to rotatably and detachably couple with said container, where said label holder as one or more protrusions that engage with said one or more apertures. However, Mallan does not disclose a label holder that is capable of holding a label while rotating, since said label holder is in the form of a spring clip that once coupled and rotated into position with said label securing structure holds a label against an outer surface of said container. Morita (US 5,135,110) discloses a label holder with a pair of protrusions that are configured to engage with a pair of apertures of a tape holding portion of a cassette case in order to rotatably and

Art Unit: 3617

detachably secure said label holder to said case, where said label holder is configured to hold a label while rotating. However, Morita does not disclose a storage bin container, only a cassette case. Bazany et al. (US 6,959,507) discloses a storage bin container with a label holder that detachably couples with said container by means of a snap-lock that secures said label holder in an opening in said container. However, Bazany et al. does not disclose a label holder that rotatably couples with a storage bin container by means of protrusions that cooperate with apertures in said container. Therefore, none of the prior art cited shows or suggests the use of a storage bin that is comprised of a container having one or more apertures, and a label holder that is configured to rotatably and detachably couple with said container, where said label holder has one or more protrusions that are configured to engage with said one or more apertures, and where said label holder is configured to hold a label while rotating.

Conclusion

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 3617

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Exr. Lars Olson whose telephone number is (571) 272-6685.

lo

August 21, 2006

LARS A. OLSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Lars Olson
8/21/06